



LIRIOPE MAJESTIC

## From RUSSELL Gardens

<sup>1956</sup>  
America's largest grower of Daylilies (30 solid acres). This plant had to be outstanding for us to grow and offer it also.

SPRING

Phone SKYline  
7-3536

TEXAS

REPRODUCED FROM EASTMAN NATURAL COLOR PHOTOGRAPH  
Growing in Shade. THE HARDY EVERGREEN WONDER PLANT GROWS IN FULL SUN OR DEEP SHADE

# LIRIOPE "MAJESTIC"

(RUSSELL STRAIN)

## The Hardy Evergreen Wonder Plant

Several years ago, in our 1949 catalogue to be exact, we had a full page in color offering this wonderful border plant shown in this circular. We thought we had plenty of stock, since the plant was not known as well as some other garden subjects, but all of the salable plants we had were sold within that season, and we have never been able to work up enough stock of it to offer in our catalogue again.

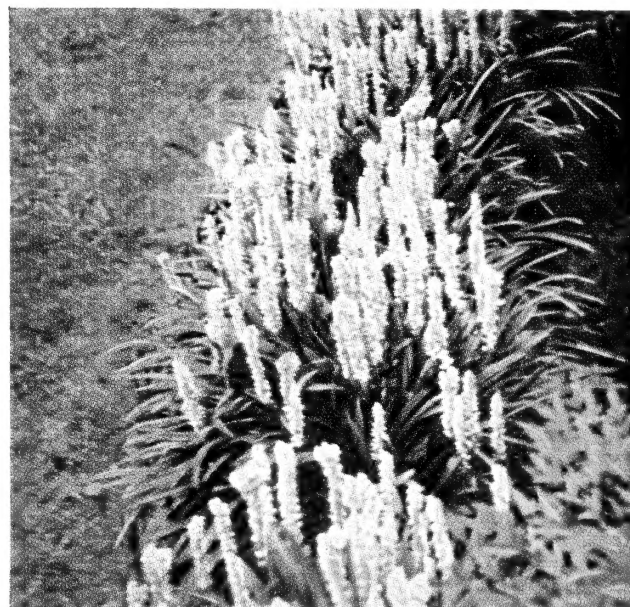
We have quite a stock of this variety now, but not nearly enough to offer in our catalogue for some time yet, but we are offering it to you in this circular for a limited time only — orders accepted from now until January 31st only. We positively will not accept any orders for this plant after that date.

For those of you who can plant now we will make immediate delivery. For you who wish Spring delivery, you may send your order now and reserve your plants until you wish shipment, even up through May, 1957, but this offer is good only until January 31, 1957.

**RESERVE YOURS NOW!**



LIRIOPE MAJESTIC. Around our office



LIRIOPE MAJESTIC. Growing in sun

# "MAJESTIC"

# JUST WHAT IS LIRIOPE MUSCARI

This is a very fine evergreen herbaceous perennial forming a compact plant that does not send out runners or otherwise spread beyond its allotted place in the garden. It grows 12 to 15 inches high, and has disease-proof foliage of the darkest green, grass-like in shape and about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in width. The whole plant presents a very graceful appearance. The very double blooms of the variety Majestic are produced in spikes that stand up well above the foliage. In color they are lilac-pink—a soft, lovely shade that contrasts beautifully with the rich dark green leaves. Each plant makes a sturdy clump, and when used for edging, as shown in the photograph on the front of this folder, the row of plants makes a most pleasing effect.

There are several other species of *Liriope*—some of them called *Ophiopogon*—but in our opinion *Muscari* is by far the most desirable. No doubt the name *Muscari* was given it because the flower resembles the *Muscari* or Grape Hyacinth. *Liriope*, of course, is a much larger plant, however, with more profuse bloom, and is a perennial instead of a bulbous plant. This species is absolutely first-rate when used as edging for a garden walk or bed. It does not send out runners and usurp the whole garden, as some other species do, nor does it become straggly and untidy-looking. The clumps grow quickly and are always neat and pleasing.

A particular variety of *Liriope muscari* has lately become much sought after in the South. It has been found in many old Southern gardens, where it was called simply "Border Plant." Nurserymen have bought up many of these old plantings for further propagation, and the result is that this superb plant is finding its way from secluded old gardens of the past into the newest plantings of today. It has proved hardy both in the North and in the South. The illustrations here show the variety which we grow exclusively. We have named it Majestic, because we truly feel that it is the best one of all.

**THE  
ANSWER  
TO A  
GARDENER'S  
PRAYER,  
LIRIOPE  
"MAJESTIC"**

A permanent edging plant is much to be preferred to either bricks or a trench as an edging for flower beds and borders. But next comes the question of finding exactly the right plant. Our long rambling borders may be in the sun, but sometimes they run into shady places. Generally speaking, plants that like sun refuse to grow well in the shade. Borders near large trees present another problem, for they often get ragged-looking in such a location.

Here is where *Liriope Majestic* comes in, for I believe it is the answer to the gardener's quest for an ideal edging plant. After growing stocks of it for many years I find it can be used practically anywhere for edging. It has been successfully planted as close to trees as 6 inches, and either sun or shade suits it. After the plants are once established they prevent lawn grass from pushing into the flower beds beyond. And in mowing the grass, all you have to do is run the mower up close to the plants, and the job is done.

**A  
SUPERB  
CUT-  
FLOWER**

Either alone or combined with other blooms, *Liriope Majestic* makes lovely floral arrangements. Its long stiff stems, which made the plant so distinctive outdoors and raise the blooms well above the foliage, are just as useful when the flowers are arranged indoors. The stems may be pulled out from the crown of the plant without being cut. They slip out very easily and are several inches longer when picked in this way. The stems are covered with flowers for 6 or more inches of their length; the flat, full florets sometimes spread out at the top like a miniature cockscomb. Plants grown in the shade bloom just as freely as those in the sun, and what is more—the flowers last ten days or more in the house. Here in Texas the blooming season begins in July and lasts about two months. In the North later bloom is to be expected.

**SHIPMENT BEG. IMMEDIATELY**

for those who can plant now—in April or later for those who reserve theirs. State when you wish shipment.

**Stock is Limited This Season**  
**ORDER EARLY**

6 PLANTS	\$3.00
12 PLANTS	\$5.00
25 PLANTS	\$9.00
100 PLANTS	\$32.50

POSTPAID

WE CANNOT SHIP LESS THAN 6 PLANTS

100 plants make a border 100 feet long

Excerpt from *The Houston Press*, August 6, by Mrs. R. C. Meysenburg, Horticultural Advisor, Southwest Region of the Garden Club of America.

## ***Liriope Seems Answer to Gardener's Quest for Colorful and Easily Raised Border Plant***

Border plants are necessary to present a neat and tidy appearance in a garden. If annuals are used for this purpose, then there is a constant replanting, pulling out or trimming. What is pleasing for one season will not be usable for the next.

With the increasing problem of garden maintenance, every gardener is searching for materials which require little care and which will grow and multiply year after year with profuse blooms and foliage.

The liriopoe seems an answer. This plant is classified as a genus of stemless smooth evergreen perennial herbs of the lily family. The foliage is grass-like but a trifle broader than a grass leaf, and the clumps grow rapidly with a thickened basal effect. As a clump matures, root division will increase the number of plants. If one is not impatient, one clump will give in a few years a large number of plants for a border.

These plants flowering in late summer and fall with deep lilac or purple flowers, produce spikes similar to

grape hyacinths. The flowers are very double on the spikes, thus giving a pronounced color effect. Following the flowering season, small purplish berries are developed and are almost as attractive as the flowers. The color of both blossoms and berries is enhanced by the profuse foliage.

This plant will grow in sun or shade and is indifferent to the soil. Planted as a border for a flower bed, the plants will show their approval with rapid growth and luscious foliage and flowers.

Liriope is closely related to the hilyrturf or ophiopogon but the blossoms are far superior in both number of spikes and thickness of the florets on the spikes. When a gardener learns of the many good qualities of the liriope, this plant will soon become a favorite and a "must" in every well-groomed garden. When a plant can be said to grow in sun or shade, indifferent to soil conditions, disregard drought or flood, and then be prolific with blooms and foliage—can there be any more good characteristics named? Liriope has a claim to all these.

A human-interest story lies behind the introduction of this special variety of *Liriope muscari*. Back in 1934 I was making one of my regular expeditions around the countryside in search of old plants that deserved to be brought again to the attention of modern gardeners. I was discussing the merits of *Liriope* with an old nurseryman whom I had known for years in Georgia. He told me that he knew of a variety growing in a certain old garden that he would like me to see. It was something different from anything he had seen before, and he felt sure it was a mutation. Right away we drove over to look at his "find," and I knew immediately that it was something I simply had to have.

Its bloom was lighter in color and more profuse, and the stem longer than any I had seen. The old lady who owned the garden told me that she had found a single clump in her old border. It had been there for many years when she decided to lift it, separate it, and start a new bed. Well, I've seen plenty of people watch a new oil-well being drilled on their property here in Texas, but I doubt whether any of them got more of a thrill than I did when this good lady told me she wanted me to have her plants! She sold me the whole bed outright, saying she wanted this lovely *Liriope* to be grown for the market and hoped I would make some money from it. Well, I have. I have now grown this variety for twenty-two years; wherever the plants have been sent — and this includes all parts of the country — they have brought forth favorable reports. They have proved themselves hardy everywhere.

Think of having an evergreen edging plant that reaches only 12 to 15 inches in height, resists all diseases, grows in either acid or lime soil, in full sun or very dense shade, and stays uniform in growth! *Liriope Majestic* is just such a plant; it grows into a beautiful compact clump that does not have to be transplanted for many years. I never saw a garden subject that could take so much punishment as the plants we have sent out for trial in many different parts of the country the past several years. They have held up perfectly through the droughts and hot winds of Oklahoma, the wet seasons of the Gulf coast, and the hard freezes of the northern and eastern states. Of course this plant, like any other, will repay you many times over for any extra care you may give it, but it will grow even when neglected. We positively guarantee that every plant we send out will do all we claim for it, and will thrive in your garden regardless of the soil and exposure.

## ORIGIN OF LIRIOPE “RUSSELL’S MAJESTIC”

**SUN OR  
SHADE,  
ACID OR  
LIME SOIL**

**RUSSELL GARDENS, Spring, Texas**

Date 195

Send to\_

Street or Route—

City—

( on or about \_\_\_\_\_

not before.

AMOUNT

## VARIETY

[illegible]

*Russell Gardens • Spring, Texas*

Postage  
Will Be Paid  
by  
Addressee

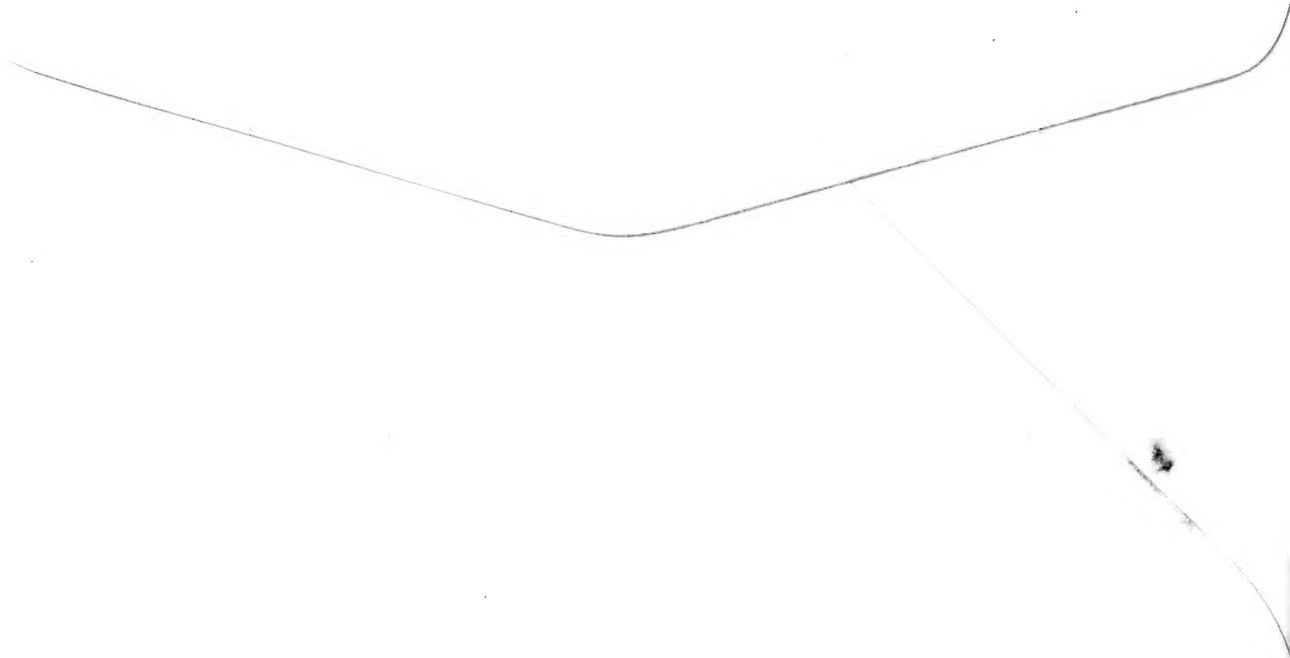
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If Mailed in the  
United States

**BUSINESS REPLY ENVELOPE**

FIRST CLASS PERMIT No. 1, SPRING, TEXAS

*Russell Gardens*  
**SPRING, TEXAS**





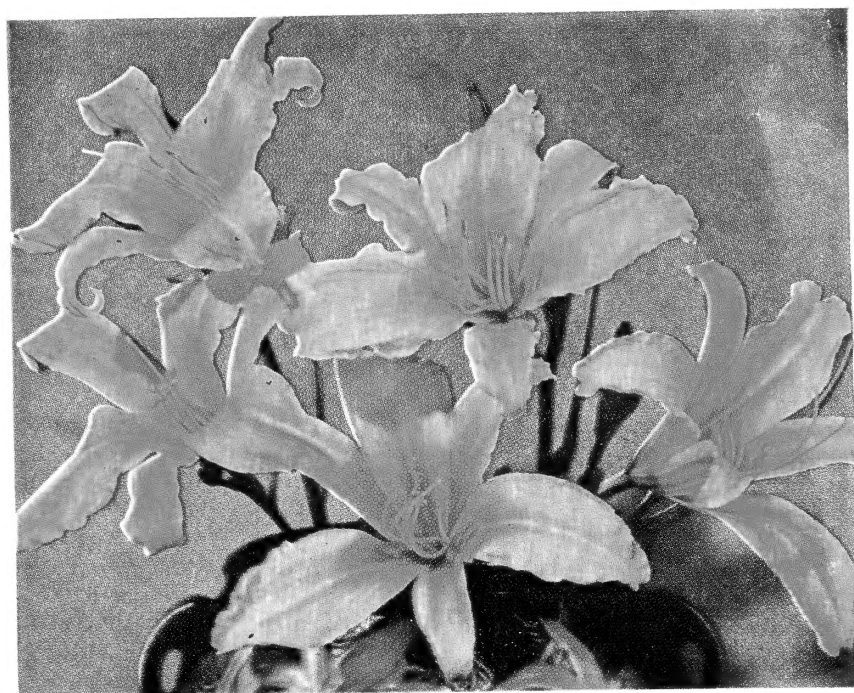




We wish to announce the acquisition of the entire stock of Daylilies of the Sass Brothers, Maple Road Gardens of Omaha, Nebraska. The Sass family is the winner of two Stout Awards, the highest honor that can be paid a breeder of Daylilies. We won *this award in 1951.*

Our 1957 Catalogue will include sixty-two full color pictures of the most famous Daylilies on earth. Your copy will be sent you in early Spring. *Wait for it! Please.*

We have also acquired the entire output of the new introductions of Mr. Orville Fay of Northbrook, Illinois. We have an agreement whereby Mr. Fay will furnish us the entire stock of his new introductions of Daylilies through the year 1963. Mr. Fay is noted for his pinks—Daylilies that are really pink—and huge pale yellows. Mr. Fay is also famous for his Bearded Iris introductions, having won two Dykes Medals, the highest honor that can be paid a breeder of Iris.



## *Russell Gardens*

23 MILES NORTH OF HOUSTON ON U. S. 75

**SPRING, TEXAS • 1956**

PHONE SKyline 7-3536

AMERICA'S LARGEST GROWER OF DAYLILIES (30 SOLID ACRES)  
ENTIRELY NEW DAYLILIES IN NEW COLORS, FORMS AND SIZES  
PROVEN HARDY FROM MAINE TO CALIFORNIA

*Wait for Our 1957 Daylily Catalog  
Showing 62 Full Color Pictures*

